Black Students- General

Agreement Between the Black Students for Mutual Understanding and Middlebury College - May 9, 1969

1. It must be recognized that the admission of disadvantaged minority group students and the need for substantial financial aid is synonomous. Since a commitment has been made to increase the number of disadvantaged minority group students at Middlebury College, it is necessary that a corresponding increase in the amount of financial aid available for said group be secured.

2. The present category of "disadvantaged students" be changed to read: Disadvantaged Minority Group Students. Said group is to be comprised of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Mexican Americans and American Indians and culturally deprived. The present criteria for defining a student as "financially disadvantaged" is to remain the same. Also, the term "disadvantaged minority student" should be expanded to include those not of the college-oriented community.

3. A. A net increase of disadvantaged minority persons.

   B. If, for example, financial awards are given to fifteen disadvantaged minority group students and a certain number of those students are unable to attend, that the money will be immediately returned to the pool of resources for disadvantaged students as defined above in 2.

   C. That a target number of disadvantaged students corresponding to the amount of money available be issued in written form by the Office of Financial Aid to the chairman of BSMU at the beginning of the new school year, in order that we have a guideline for recruitment.

   D. That an additional $10,000 be allocated to the Admissions Office for the present year so that admission with aid can be offered as follows:

      1. Those Black students admitted already but without need as agreed upon in order of priority by the President and BSMU.
      2. Those Black students on the waiting list.
      3. If funds are not utilized on categories (1) and (2), that the Admissions Office shall recruit throughout the summer as

many disadvantaged students as possible with the additional funds including any additional funds that come available through refusals of currently committed "disadvantaged" financial aid money.

The College feels that commitment of funds rather than specification of numbers of students in this instance is more realistic. Some of the disadvantaged students coming to Middlebury next year have less than total need. If such students can be located over the summer, we will be able to get even more disadvantaged students for the funds allocated than if we were to fix on a definite amount such as six. On the other hand, if all the students recruited over the summer are total need cases, we would expect four to five additional disadvantaged.

4. That a list of independent agencies and foundations which would have available funds for disadvantaged students be issued immediately to the chairman of BSMU.

5. That the chairman of BSMU be informed concerning all appropriate matters involving disadvantaged students on Middlebury campus.

James I. Armstrong
President

Dennis O'Brien
Dean of the College

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Chairman, Black Students
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5/9/69